



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/IDS
Hawkins
2/26/02

In re application of

Yoshihito ASAO, et al.

Appln. No. 09/839,173

Group Art Unit: 2834

Confirmation No.: 4871

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: April 23, 2001

For: AUTOMOTIVE ALTERNATOR

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 15, 2002



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/839,173

English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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